

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for customizing a reminder for a programming event comprising the steps of:

providing a reminder customizer on at least a first instrument of a plurality of instruments in communication with each other, wherein the reminder customizer includes a reminder options feature for permitting a user to indicate at least one of a plurality of devices on which the reminder is to appear, and enabling the user to select at least one device on which the reminder is designated to appear which is not capable of receiving the broadcast programming event;

indicating at least one programming event for which a reminder is desired;

specifying at least one user-desired instrument from the plurality of instruments on which an auto-tune feature is desired to be implemented.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a second instrument, said second instrument being in communication with said first instrument wherein said at least one indicated device on which the reminder is to appear is operably connected to said second instrument.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one indicated programming event for which the reminder is desired, is automatically tuned to on the at least one specified user-desired instrument at a designated time and date.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein if the user does not indicate the device on which the reminder is to appear, further comprising the step of activating a default mode.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the default mode is customizable by the user.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises at least one of a television, PDA, computer, cellular phone and landline phone.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first instrument comprises a receiver.

8. (Currently amended) A method for customizing a reminder for a programming event comprising the steps of:

providing a reminder customizer on at least one set top box of a plurality of set top boxes in communication with each other;

providing a user interface for interactive communication with said reminder customizer, said user interface providing a reminder options feature ~~to permit for~~ permitting a user to indicate at least one of a plurality of devices, capable of displaying the programming event, on which the reminder is to appear, and enabling the user to select at least one device on which the reminder is designated to appear which is not capable of receiving the broadcast programming event;

indicating at least one programming event for which a reminder is desired; and

specifying at least one user-desired set top box from the plurality of set top boxes on which an auto-tune feature is desired to be implemented.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of providing a second instrument, said second instrument being in communication with said set top box, wherein said selected device on which the reminder is to appear is operably connected to said second instrument.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the at least one indicated programming event for which the reminder is desired, is automatically tuned to on the at least one specified user-desired set top box at a designated time and date.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein if the user does not indicate the device on which the reminder is to appear, further comprising the step of activating a default mode.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the default mode is customizable by the user.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the device comprises at least one of a television, PDA, computer, cellular phone and landline phone.

14. (Currently amended) An apparatus for customizing a reminder for a programming event comprising:

a reminder customizer which includes

a reminder options feature for enabling a user to indicate at least one programming event for which a reminder is desired, ~~[[and]]~~ for permitting a user to select at least one device for displaying the reminder at that device, and for enabling the user to select at least one device on which the reminder is designated to appear which is not capable of receiving the programming event; and

a customizable auto-tune feature which permits the user to specify at least one user-desired set top box from a plurality of set top boxes in communication with each other, on which an auto-tune feature is desired to be implemented;

a controller for controlling coupling of a decoded signal to at least one device in accordance with the user-selected reminder options.

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising a decoder for providing the decoded signal from an input signal.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the at least one indicated programming event for which the reminder is desired, is automatically tuned to on the at least one specified user-desired set top box at a designated time and date.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the device comprises at least one of a television, PDA, computer, cellular phone and landline phone.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of indicating a desired frequency of the reminder.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of indicating a desired frequency of the reminder.

20. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the reminder customizer further comprises a reminder frequency feature for indicating a desired frequency of the reminder.